

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/829,587

Examiner

James O. Hansen

Applicant(s)

LAI, VINCENT

Art Unit

3637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to December 10, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-6 renumbered 1-2 respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Keith Kline on December 21, 2004.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel Claims 3-4.

Add the following new claims:

5. (New) An apparatus for quickly detaching and reassembling a front mask of a computer casing comprising:

a frontmask, two anchoring elements installed on an inner side of a lower part of the frontmask, the anchoring elements each having a square shaped hole;

a computer casing having two holes formed in an upper part, said holes fixedly receiving respective hook-shaped clips located on the front mask; and

a movable device installed in a lower part of an inner side of the computer casing, a plurality of sliding clips located on opposite ends of the movable device to be received in respective guideways located in the base, an anchor located on the movable device to be received in a hole in the base, a wedge-shaped push-head located on an upper side of each end of the movable device, the push-heads each having a beveled

surface on a lower edge thereof, and a retraction spring and handle located on a side surface of the movable device; wherein

the holes of the anchoring elements mate with hooks on the computer casing thereby securing the frontmask to the computer casing; wherein, to detach the front mask, a user pulls the handle to stretch the retraction spring so that the beveled surfaces lift the anchoring elements of the frontmask, thereby separating the holes in the anchoring elements from the hooks of the computer casing, while simultaneously the wedge-shaped push-heads of the movable device push the anchoring elements outward, thereby allowing easy removal of the frontmask from the computer casing.

6. (New) The apparatus for quickly detaching and reassembling the frontmask of a computer casing in accordance to Claim 5, wherein the wedge-shaped push-heads of the movable device are L-shaped.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reason for the allowance of the claims in this application, is the recitation of the specific frontmask, computer casing and movable device as structurally defined and functionally interrelated as stipulated in independent Claim 5, in combination with the other elements recited.

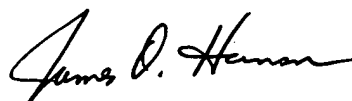
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James O. Hansen whose telephone number is 703-305-7414. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on 703-308-2486. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



James O. Hansen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3637

JOH
December 22, 2004